

Arrowhead News

Centre for Native Education

March 2000

Spring has sprung, which means the end is near...!

It's almost time to finish up another academic year at university! We made it through mid-terms and now we are almost at the point of final exams and term papers. With only a couple of weeks left before the end of classes, it's time to buckle down and put your nose to the grind for the final haul of the semester. This is often one of the most difficult times for students, especially first year students. The weather is changing, the snow is melting and the days are finally getting longer now. We are easily distracted by the bonny climate and sometimes it's hard to make it to class or the library to do that research or studying. Nonetheless, it's only a few more weeks, and then we can all relax and get ready for the summer, find jobs, visit our families, or spend some time travelling a little. If you're having trouble keeping your momentum up, drop by the Centre for a little encouragement. We'll pour you a cup of coffee and help you find solutions to your problems! Good luck everyone!

Welcome back Manon!

Our coordinator, Manon Tremblay, has been away on maternity leave since the middle of July. Manon gave birth to her second son on September 9, Thomas Frederick Stuart. After a nice looooong maternity leave, we welcome back Manon on March 27th. We hope you are well rested Manon...there is so much to do when you get back!

We are sad to see Brenda leaving us...



Brenda F. Rowe has been our Interim Coordinator in the absence of Manon. We have come to rely upon the warmth and generosity of Brenda's personality over the past months, and we will miss her greatly when she is gone. Ah, but her leaving does not go uncelebrated! We are holding a party for Brenda on Thursday, March 30, at 3:30 PM in the lounge at the Centre. We hope you can all come and wish Brenda the best on all her endeavours. This is a catered event and students and their families are invited to come and enjoy the company of Brenda and the rest of the staff here at the Centre for Native Education.

Important dates:

- Monday, April 10: Last day of regular classes.
- Wednesday, April 12: Exams begin.
- Friday, April 21: Good Friday, university closed.
- Saturday, April 22: University closed.
- Monday, April 24: Easter Monday, university closed.
- Sunday, May 7: Exams end.
- Friday, May 12: University Writing Test.

Congratulations Robert Auclair!

Another winner of this year's Foundation for the Advancement of Aboriginal Youth Award is Robert Auclair! Robert, a Cree from Whapmagoostui, is currently studying

Sociology at Concordia as well as Police Technology at John Abbott College. He intends to work towards a career in law enforcement. Way to go Robert!

Congratulations to Delores LaPratt-Houseman!

Delores was one of the key organizers of this year's History In the Making Conference VI. The conference, which was held on March 11th, was the largest and most successful HIM conference ever, with 31 presenters and over 100 participants from across North America. The Centre for Native Education is proud to be one of the sponsors, and even more proud to have Delores as one of our top students!

Graduation News:

For all our graduating students, the Centre for Native Education will be holding its annual Grad Dinner and Dance in your honour. The date and place are yet to be determined, but we will keep you informed of the developments as they happen. If you are graduating this spring, we need you to call us and let us know as soon as possible! We would like to include you in our graduation ceremonies and honour you for your achievements. As for the university's convocation and ceremonies, they are as follows:

- Faculty of Fine Arts: June 6th, 2pm at the Oscar Peterson Concert Hall.
- Faculty of Commerce and Administration: June 7th, 7pm at the Molson Centre.
- Faculty of Arts and Science: June 13th, 10am and 2:30pm at the Molson Centre.
- Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science: June 13th, 7pm at the Molson Centre.

Make your voice heard!

The Centre for Native Education has been invited to take part in a national survey regarding Aboriginal student services in Canadian universities. All of our Native students are encouraged to take part and complete a survey. They can be found online at: <www.ucs.mun.ca/~e02mep/password/student/student.htm> If you prefer, we have the survey on paper here at the Centre. Drop by and fill one out!

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In honour of a great Chief.

On Friday, March 10, a great chief passed away. Chief Joe Mathias, a Hereditary Chief of the Squamish Nation, was a fiercely loyal and tenacious advocate for aboriginal land claims and constitutional rights. He was one of the most influential leaders of his time, and as such, he is greatly missed by his family and community. More than 2,000 people gathered for his funeral, a sign of his significance on the world around him. The Centre for Native Education sends our deepest regrets to his family, including his niece, one of our top students. We leave you with words from Chief Joe Mathias himself:

Thoughts About My People

Our roots are very deep and are intertwined with the earth. Consequently, we are invisible to society. They really can't see who we really are. They are blind because their roots are shallow and prone to become dust, like the ground becomes when the sun no longer nourishes the earth but is hot and brutal. So the roots can't hang on and eventually they disappear in the winds of time and change. And still we are invisible to them. We remain true to the earth – the land is who we are.

-Chief Joe Mathias

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Centre for Native Education

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*The Centre for Native Education is part of
Advocacy & Support Services, a department of
Student Services.*